

ARTICLE APPEARED
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NEW YORK TIMES
13 SEPTEMBER 1981

Company of Ex-C.I.A. Aide Is Focus of U.S. Bribe Inquiry

The following article is based on reporting by Philip Taubman and Jeff Gerth and was written by Mr. Gerth.

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12 — The Federal Bureau of Investigation is investigating an allegation that a company controlled by Edwin P. Wilson, a former employee of the Central Intelligence Agency, bribed a key Federal official with funds from the Control Data Corporation, according to Federal law-enforcement officials and a former associate of Mr. Wilson.

A spokesman for Control Data said that his company, the Minneapolis computer concern, had retained one of Mr. Wilson's companies to help Control Data gain Defense Department business.

Kevin P. Mulcahy, who worked for Mr. Wilson in 1978, has told prosecutors that some of the money that Control Data paid to the Wilson company was used that year to make monthly payments to Paul Cyr, who was head of Congressional relations for the Federal Energy Administration at the time and previously held the same post with the Army Materiel Command, according to a participant in the arrangement and Federal law enforcement officials.

Meeting to Discuss Bugging

Mr. Mulcahy, a former C.I.A. employee, has also told Federal investigators that he attended a meeting with an Army procurement official and others in which a plan was discussed to gain inside information for Control Data by illegally bugging offices of the Army Materiel Command, according to investigators and a former Wilson associate.

Mr. Mulcahy does not know if the bugging plan was put into effect since he stopped working for Mr. Wilson in 1978, but he was involved in the Control Data contract long enough to have personally made at least one monthly payment of more than \$1,000 to Mr. Cyr, these sources add.

A spokesman for Control Data acknowledged that his company had contracted with one of Mr. Wilson's companies from 1976 to April 1979 to find military "business opportunities," but said that Control Data knew of no improprieties in the performance of that contract.

Mr. Cyr left the Department of Energy, which succeeded the Federal Energy Administration, a few years ago to become a private consultant.

This article continues an investigation by The Times into the transfer abroad of advanced technology and military equipment by former United States intelligence agents and military officials.

Key issues involve Federal control over such transfers, how they were made and the role of the Central Intelligence Agency in the activities of Edwin P. Wilson, a former agent. Mr. Wilson and another former agent were indicted in 1980 on charges of exporting explosives to Libya to help train terrorists. Other former C.I.A. employees have business ties to Mr. Wilson.

Previous articles have reported on Mr. Wilson's use of Green Beret troops to train terrorists in Libya and evidence that investigators say links Mr. Wilson to the suspect in the attempted murder of a Libyan student in Colorado.

Reached by telephone today at his home in Virginia, he said, "I'm not interested in talking to you" about the reports involving him and Mr. Wilson's company. He then hung up.

The investigation of the payments to Mr. Cyr is one sign that the Federal investigation of Mr. Wilson has widened beyond its original focus of Mr. Wilson's selling of explosives to Libya, according to Federal law enforcement officials.

Investigators say they are also looking into whether Congressmen and other Federal employees, including officials of the C.I.A., received money through Mr. Wilson. But the investigators who are following up information from Mr. Mulcahy would provide no other details.

The Federal investigation has also broadened to include an examination of Mr. Wilson's dealings with several governments, including Egypt and Iran in addition to Libya, according to law enforcement officials and Mr. Wilson's associates.

Another Wilson deal under investigation, according to the same sources, is the sale in the mid-1970's of construction equipment by the Iranian government to construction companies in the United States and elsewhere. This transaction yielded Mr. Wilson and his associates a profit of more than \$25 million, according to one former Wilson associate, and also involved other former C.I.A. employees and top Iranian officials in the regime of Shah Mohammed Riza Pahlavi.

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that Mr. Wilson denied news reports that portrayed him as being involved in "gun-running" and "terrorism."

Grants of Immunity Aided Inquiry

Law enforcement officials say that the new indictments, as well as the new avenues of investigation, are a result of the increased resources assigned to the case and the prosecutors' ability to gain testimony, often in return for grants of immunity, from former Wilson associates.

While Mr. Wilson remains a fugitive from last year's charges, he met secretly with prosecutors earlier this year in an unsuccessful attempt to settle the case, according to a participant in the discussions.

The meeting, which took place last June in Rome, involved Mr. Wilson and E. Lawrence Barcella Jr., the assistant United States Attorney handling the case, according to others concerned with the case who participated in the discussion. These participants refused to discuss the meeting. But others sources said that the discussion, which touched on possible settlement of the charges, proved inconclusive.

Prosecutors have been attempting to monitor Mr. Wilson's movements since his indictment in the hope of apprehending him in a foreign country that honors the international fugitive agreement outstanding against him. They have held discussions with the Swiss authorities and Interpol officials about the possibility of extradition.

Reagan Interested in Case

In recent months President Reagan and other top officials, including the assistant to the President for national security, Richard V. Allen, Attorney General William French Smith, Federal Bureau of Investigation Director William H. Webster and the director of Central Intelligence, William J. Casey, have expressed interest in the case, according to intelligence and law enforcement officials.

President Reagan, these officials say, sent a message to Mr. Casey calling for the full cooperation of the C.I.A. in the case.